

SUTTON'S MOMENT OF GLORY

MIDDLESBROUGH boss Jack Charlton is a man with a special knowledge of Isthmian League soccer. For Charlton was the strong man at the heart of the Leeds United defence when they played Sutton United in the fourth round of the F.A. Cup on January 25, 1970 — one of the few games when an Isthmian side has taken on a First Division 'grant'.

His experience in that match gave him a useful insight into the amateur scene which he will doubtless recall in preparing for this Saturday's cup tie against Wycombe.

On that memorable day at Gander Green Lane, Charlton was an integral part of the Leeds defence which thwarted all the efforts of a brave Sutton side who had become the first amateur club to reach the fourth round of the competition since Walthamstow Avenue 20 years

previous.

When Charlton and the rest of the Leeds side — who represented arguably the best club team in Europe at that time — trotted out to do battle, there was a record 14,000 crowd crammed into the little Surrey ground. Inevitably Leeds won and won decisively 6-0, but it was the occasion rather than the final score which will be remembered by the fans and officials of the Sutton club who under former Wanderers manager Sid Cann, had written a fresh chapter in their history.

When the draw was made and Sutton won a replay with Hillingdon to clinch the fourth round place, offers of help poured into the United ground. Among those who helped on the day were 30 pupils enlisted by Sutton skipper Ted Powell from his local school. They sold programmes and acted as ball boys.

The build up to the game effectively began on the previous Sunday when tickets went on sale to the public. A queue almost two miles long snaked its way through streets surrounding the ground and 7,500 tickets were sold in three and a half hours.

On the day itself, 15,000 programmes were sold, crowd trouble was kept to a minimum while afterwards there were tributes to the courage of the amateurs from Leeds manager Don Revie and skipper Billy Bremner.



SID CANN
... Sutton boss

Wycombe threw

Jack Smethurst who was admitted earlier in the week.

WYCOMBE: B. Steventon, P. Griffiths, T. Reardon, K. Mead, G. Hand, G. Mackenzie, P. Birdseye (sub H. Kennedy 45 mins.), D. Alexander, A. Horseman, K. Searle (sub S. Perrin 45 mins.), D. Evans.

WATFORD: M. Dalrymple, T. How, W. Lees, D. Bristow, J. Walsh, G. Johnson (sub McCarthy 60 mins), M. Keen, G. Cox, L. McGettigan, K. Mercer, G. Roberts (sub Coffill 60 mins.).

Referee: G. Kew (Amersham).

Half time: 1-0. **Goalscorer,** Wycombe — Mackenzie (4).

Official paying attendance: 1,500.

If there's a replay

SHOULD a replay be necessary after Wycombe's F.A. Cup tie with Middlesbrough, it will take place on Tuesday at Ayresome Park, Middlesbrough (7.30 p.m.) Wycombe have made tentative arrangements for trains with British Rail.

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